

Minutes of the Regular Athens Town Board Meeting Held December 4, 2023 at the Town Hall

Board members present: Dave Henderson, Todd Christensen, Chris Olson, Tom Heinen, Dave Beckstrom, Clerk Diane Carpenter, Treasurer Marlys Balfany, and Mike Jungbauer

Guests: Jason Ross, Billy Larson, Mike Warring, Jack Cole, AJ Ondrey, Lyle Reynolds, Eric Pfeifer, Nick Anderson

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

M/S Chris Olson/Todd Christensen to approve the minutes of the November 6, 2023 meeting as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

Action Items

Remaining action items

- Dave will send out the new email address for the township.
- Articles to Mike for the Newsletter.

Approve Agenda

M/S Chris Olson/Tom Heinen to approve the agenda as amended. Motion passed unanimously

Lyle Reynolds gave a county update.

Russ gave an update on the scoreboard and also presented a girls' soft ball photo and trophy.

Mar-Tec has proposed putting a dish on a light tower in the park. Mark was not in attendance at the meeting to answer questions. Russ wonders if it will interfere with scoreboard operation. Mike

recommended a lease. The issue was tabled until more info is available.

Planning & Zoning

- Nick Anderson was in attendance and his IUP was discussed. M/S Todd Christensen/Tom Heinen to approve Resolution 2023-11 approving IUP. Motion passed unanimously.
- A discussion was held about Buck's LMEN(previously First State Tire) and their Isanti County rezoning. No one from the county has responded to Mike's inquiries about water drainage, cleanups, etc.
- There will be no P&Z meeting in December since it is so close to Christmas.
- We are still working on the Highway 65 zoning and accessory building sizes.
- Sandy Ondrey will be helping Mike with final file input.

Mike Warring gave a county update.

Roads

- A discussion was held regarding fall dustcoating. It was decided we will do some this fall and see how it works out. Chris outlined some areas where it will be tried. M/S Chris Olson/Dave Beckstrom to approve dustcoating. Motion passed unanimously.
- A culvert on 263rd needs to be replaced. We will do it in the spring.

Fire

The fire department is 8% favorable on this year's budget at this time.

Parks

- No meeting in November and December.

Clerk's Report

-Diane attended a clerk's meeting at the courthouse about the upcoming Presidential primary election.

-We need some supervisors to train for the Board of Appeals meeting. Diane handed out an email on how to do the training.

-Reminder that the January meeting will be held on January 8th and will begin at 6:30 for the Board of Reorganization.

-All yearly accounts have been reconciled with the treasurer.

-Please note on your schedule of 2024 meetings that the December meeting will be on December 9th because of the Thanksgiving holiday weekend.

-Please sign your charge slips at Menards if you charge on the township account so I know who to contact if I have questions.

The gopher machine needs a new trailer.

M/S Todd Christensen/Dave Beckstrom to spend up to 1000.00 on a new trailer. Motion passed unanimously.

AJ Ondrey presented info on hand counting ballots for the upcoming elections.

Treasurer's Report-

M/S Dave Beckstrom/Chris Olson to approve the Treasurer's Report, Claims List for Approval, and Net Pay Account Distribution Report & IRS (checks 8145-8171 plus IRS totaling 24,606.99). Two checks were voided. Motion passed unanimously.

The clerk and the treasurer are in balance.

-Budgets for different departments need to be formed so we can discuss the levy.

-We will need to transfer funds from the general account to P&Z by year end so all accounts will end the year with a positive balance.

-Employee sick and safe time is being instituted on a state level. It will accrue at 1 hour per 30 hours worked and is based on a calendar year. The chair and clerk must be notified in advance before taking this time off. For preventive care, a five day notice is required. Max of 48 hours accruing in a year and a max of 80 can be had if it goes to the next year.

Mike's vacation will be awarded at the beginning of the year and up to 40 hours can carry over to the next year.

M/S Dave Beckstrom/Chris Olson to adjourn the meeting at 9:33. PM. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Carpenter

Athens Township Clerk

_____ Date _____